

EDITORIALS

El Nido Election

Elector in the El Nido area will be asked to make a major decision at the polls Tuesday—do they want to remain as an unincorporated part of Los Angeles County, or do they want to become a part of the City of Torrance.

The decision will rest with about 150 voters who will be eligible to cast ballots on the matter Tuesday at the area's polling place.

El Nido has always been a closely knit, community-minded area of neighbors whose addition to Torrance would be to the benefit of all of the city. Their choice should be an easy one, with the benefits of local government which are offered the area by annexation. And the services offered by the city, which include police and fire protection in addition to regular trash, rubbish, and garbage pickup without charge, is a prime consideration.

The HERALD, as one of the city's oldest establishments, is certain that a decision Tuesday to annex the El Nido area to Torrance would be in the best interests of all parties concerned.

Torrance is a wonderful city, and it's going places. El Nido should be a part of it.

Dublin (Ga.) Courier-Herald: "Perhaps government should not be operated as a business, but there are certain principles of economics that ought to be considered in the operation of any division of government. One principle is that when the outgo exceeds the income, something serious is bound to happen."

THE MAIL BOX

(The Torrance Herald welcomes expressions from its readers which can be published on this page. The editors retain the right to edit the copy for matters of libel and good taste. Letters should be kept brief and must be signed. The writer's name will be withheld if requested. Opinions expressed in letters here published represent those of the writer and not necessarily those of the Torrance Herald.)

Need More Books

Editor, Torrance Herald: Would like to call to your attention a situation in North Torrance High School which I believe should be called to the public's attention.

I have three children in North High and when their report cards come, I noticed bad marks on certain subjects. When the children were asked about this, they all told the same story:

"Mother, we have one book in biology for every three students."

The junior student explained they have one set of books for about 90 students. (There are about 90 books to a set.) This is in English and literature. When she asked her teacher why the school didn't order more books, she was told the school cannot afford any more books.

Correct me if I'm wrong, but I am under the impression that the state covers book expenses.

Evidently this school does not take into consideration the child who must work hard to get a good grade and certainly this child needs his book on a difficult subject to take home and study.

We are wondering if other schools in Torrance complain of a like situation—or rather, other students in other schools in Torrance have this complaint.

For many years, Torrance has rated very high in schooling compared to other schools. Being that we have bought our home in Torrance this past year or so, our children can now attend Torrance schools. We would like to have this situation cleared up and can think of no one

more capable of doing this than The HERALD.

Don't use my name as I do not want to call attention to myself as a very dissatisfied parent of three students in North High School. However, I will be watching for some report on this condition in your newspaper.

TORRANCE CITIZEN

Ballot Aid Noted

Editor, Torrance Herald: I want to take this opportunity to express to you and to your staff my appreciation and the appreciation of all those persons in State Government concerned with education, mental hygiene and corrections, for the wonderful coverage you accorded publicity in behalf of Proposition No. 3 at the recent election.

Those of us in State Government were most concerned whether or not this measure would be approved by the voters. We were certain that if sufficient information about the Proposition were made available to the public they would support it at the election. The press of California, as it has done so many times in the past, successfully carried the tremendous burden of educating the voters about this measure and the other measures on the ballot.

May I again extend to you my thanks for your wonderful cooperation on Proposition No. 3, as well as all the other problems facing education in this State of ours.

ROY E. SIMPSON, Superintendent of Public Instruction and Director of Education, State of California.

SOCK IT AWAY!



YOUR PROBLEMS

By ANN LANDERS

Dear Ann Landers: I'm no youngster and I'm almost ashamed to be asking for advice, but I need an unbiased opinion from someone who doesn't know me.

I'm not beautiful but my figure is good. I dress well, own my home, a car, am well-traveled and respected in the community. My father died two years ago leaving me good holdings and a going business.

An attractive young man (12 years my junior) has been extremely attentive. He's dated me steadily for three months. But my friends have seen him out with girls 20 years younger than I am. He phones every night to profess his undying love and talk of marriage. His conversations all wind up with questions about my financial situation. I've been warned that he's opportunistic and insincere. If this is true, why does he swear his worships the ground I walk on?

—Miss B.L.K.

Dear Miss B.L.K.: He probably thinks there's oil under it.

Dear Ann: My eyes are so swollen from crying I can hardly see to write. I went steady for three months. My fellow was captain of the football team and very handsome. He had my ring and I had his. Everyone thought of us as a pair.

Last July he invited me to the Winter Carnival and I accepted. Recently a cute new girl enrolled in our school and he's been paying a lot of attention to her. Today he cancelled our Winter Carnival date because I wasn't tall enough to make a good entrance in case he's elected "King".

I just know he wants to take the new girl and I'm sick at heart. My dad says to forget about the guy because he's a jerk. What's your opinion?—Shook Up.

He isn't even a jerk—he's a small twitch. Take dad's advice and cross him off the list for keeps. Don't waste any time sitting around feeling sorry for yourself.

A fellow who could pull such a crummy stunt isn't much of a loss.

Dear Ann Landers: I don't mean to brag but I'm a former beauty contest winner and men have always raved about my figure.

I was married recently and now I'm pregnant. This was not planned. I've been terribly sick and my doctor says it's primarily because my mental attitude is one of resentment. I'm not resentful, Ann, it's just that I'm afraid this baby will ruin my figure. I'm somewhat resigned, but still feel rotten. How can I get my thinking straightened around? Please help me.—Nauseated.

If YOU are nauseated this

should give you an idea how your attitude must affect others.

Motherhood is one of life's greatest experiences. No one yet has been able to figure out a short-cut. A temporary loss of figure is small potatoes compared to the rich rewards.

Some women retain a youthful figure after many children. Don't seize upon your condition as an excuse to eat everything in sight or you'll look like a hippo. Keep your weight down, be neat, and you'll be doubly attractive regardless of the shape you're in.

Dear Ann: I have a daughter, now married, who has a family of her own. I always sacrificed for this girl, bought her lovely things so she wouldn't feel inferior at school. I worked part-time and gave her spending money, voice lessons and a fur coat.

Now she thinks I still

ought to buy her things and complains when I get shoes and extras for myself. In fact she makes me feel guilty.

My husband and I of all I did for her she treats me with less respect than the daughters of our friends. Why is there no gratitude for past sacrifices? She needles me constantly.—Hurt Mother.

If you're looking for "gratitude," Mother, you'll find it in the dictionary. You'll never get respect in exchange for spending money on voice lessons or a fur coat. Respect is earned, not bought.

Parents who knock themselves out to give their kids "the best" often wind up with kids that are "the worst."

(Ann Landers will be glad to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of this newspaper. Copyright, 1956, Field Enterprises, Inc. Distributed by Chicago Sun-Times Syndicate)

GLAZED BITS

By BARNEY GLAZER

At a recent KTLA press party, the following musicians combined to play a few numbers: Spade Cooley, violin; Cliffie Stone, bass; Doye O'Dell, guitar; Eddie Cletro, guitar; Speedy West, steel guitar; and Barney Glazer, bass (who did you say? why that joker couldn't play FIRST base!)

Notes from the UCLA-Kansas football game... On one penalty, I counted six red handkerchiefs on the ground, yet there were only five officials (there's a ringer in the crowd who's throwing two hankies at a time)...

UCLA's rooting section sang: "How You Gonna Keep 'em Down on the Kansas Farm After UCLA?"... Kirk Wilson, the Bruin soph kicker, was booting 'em so high, you couldn't blame the Kansas backs for hesitating about catching the ball. Probably figured that anything dropping from that height would pull them right through the ground.

Yma Sumac, the Peruvian songstress, has been heckled so much about her accent she wants you to know that she is now thoroughly Americanized. Only last week, says Yma, she had a dream in English... Jack Broder, owner of the California Racquet Club, says: "This is such a rough world, we'll all be lucky to get out of it alive."

George Shearing overheard it in a night club. Tossed salad tosser: "I'm going back to my first husband if he can get his third wife to go back to her second husband"... Too bad those

out-of-some-other-space men didn't land on our terra firma recently, as predicted. I had a sign all painted fresh-like reading: "MARTIANS GO HOME."

And just in case there were some beautiful gals among them, I had an alternate sign on hand reading: "MARTIANS COME BACK SOON."

Elevator ups-and-downs... "Where did you meet your wife?" "I didn't meet her. She came to me one night from out of the Santa Fe freight yards"...

"So I looked up at the moon, because it was a warm, romantic evening, and I was with my lady love, and I said out loud: 'Allegheny Moon, what in the devil are you doing over Torrance, California?'"

We will now sing a little tune (dedicated to all the wives of our male readers) titled, "Honey, PLEASE Don't Yell Through That Screen Door. You Know You're Straining Your Voice"...

In the new movie, "The Teahouse of the August Moon," Glenn Ford explains to Marlon Brando: "What is democracy? Why democracy is the right we have to make the wrong choice."

The phone rang at my house this morning and a man's voice inquired: "Is this the Bank of America?" "No, it isn't, sir," I replied with due courtesy, "but my wife thinks it is."

The SQUIRREL CAGE

By REID BUNDY

The comments here about names the other day set the gang around the office to talking, and Milt Svensk reminded us of the young lady who is active in South Bay musical circles whose real name is Beverly Hills.

Society Editor Edna Cloyd was reminded of a Beverly Hills couple named Lear who named their daughter Shanda—get it, Shanda Lear.

Tom Rische came up with a double entry from Nebraska when Mr. Hawk, his high school science teacher, named his son, Tommy, and his daughter, Holly.

Top prizes in any name contest, however, would have to go to the burly-gue queens who invent their own names to fit their personalities—or other charming attributes.

Down town right now, one club features the antics of Lotti the Body, and another has Slappy White on the billing.

Of course, you can probably name 100 more.

Appropriateness of the name to the job sometimes is worth considering, also. I was always bemused by the fact that Paul Grimes is head of the publicity bureau for the Air Pollution Control District; and that C. Sharpless Hickman is publicity man for the Los Angeles Bureau of Music.

My vote for this month's winners, however, will have to go to the Lomita Eastern Star chapter who has named Betty Lou Church as chaplain and Muriel Gasser as publicity chairman.

I think I should warn you that Tom Rische, the fellow who sits at the desk next to mine, is apt to walk up on you at the drop of the hat and tell you about the time the Lone Ranger and his Indian friend, Tonto, were surrounded by a large band of Indians, obviously on the war-path.

"Tonto, what are we going to do now?" the Lone Ranger asked.

"What do you mean 'we,' Paleface?" Tonto asked.

And a famous Hollywood producer is credited with passing around the last sentiments of the hypochondriac which were engraved on his tombstone:

"See, I kept telling you I was sick."

SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY

How could anybody ever say: "The king can do no wrong?" (When we know of kings who did do wrong.)

The idea looks simple: As absolute law maker, the king could hold himself above his own law. He was under no law and could therefore do no legal wrong.

Anyway, when King George lost the 13 colonies, the American states took over the doctrine of Sovereign Immunity: Nobody can sue a government agency without the state's permission, when the agency is doing government work. (Of course if the agency is doing "proprietary actions" like running street cars or making electricity, it may often be sued much like any other business.)

Thus suppose for lack of due care a private bakery truck should harm your child who had done nothing to bring on the accident. Well then, most likely you could sue the bakery in the child's behalf and collect damages.

But not with government agencies unless the legislature gives you lawful permis-

The Freelancer

By TOM RISCHÉ

Santa Claus, that jolly old gent with the long white beard, dropped by the office the other day to see how the children of Torrance had been behaving.

On the whole, the capers of the local small fry had been no better or no worse than those in other parts of the nation, we told him. Laying his finger aside his nose, Santa noted that this was the situation everywhere.

"Rich or poor, children in all parts of the world are naughty sometimes," Santa declared. "For the most part, they're pretty well-behaved, but they sometimes forget. My helpers report that every year, their attitudes seem to improve noticeably a round Christmas-time."

We asked him what local youngsters seemed to want in their small hope chests this year.

"Well, it seems that most of the boys want bicycles and trains, while the girls want great big dollies," he chuckled. "Funny thing too, lots of the girls want dishwashers for their mummies, because they don't want to do the dishes themselves."

How, we asked, could Santa provide all the things that children all over the world are asking for.

"Well, it's like this," he told us. "Sometimes when I come to see me, I ask them whether they wouldn't rather be surprised than to get all of those things that they asked for. After all, some of the children ask for adding machines and typewriters and real expensive things. If I tried to give everybody what he wanted, I wouldn't have enough money to give everybody something."

We wondered how Santa

managed to get around to all the little kiddies.

"My reindeer are pretty fast and when there is no snow for them to travel on, I get one of these new cars and with all that horsepower, it makes it easy to get around in the twinkling of an eye. The kiddies often wonder where my reindeer are, but I have to tell them that the reindeer can't get around so well without snow."

When Santa stopped in Torrance, did he ever have any trouble with the children here?

"Oh no. A lot of them are a little bashful and shy, but they're all just as nice as can be. Last year, I only had trouble with one little fellow who said he didn't believe in me, but he soon changed his mind."

How did Santa change this reluctant boy's mind?

"I just told him how he had failed to turn off the radio when his mother asked him the night before and how he didn't hang up his clothes when he went to bed. He did not think I'd know, but I did. I have lots of helpers."

We decided that Santa was a pretty shrewd old gent. We wondered, though, after all the years that he has been coming whether he didn't sometimes get tired.

"Never. After all, it makes the children so happy when I come that if I do get tired, it revived me just to see their smiling faces. After all, Christmas is for the youngsters."

Then, taking his leave, Santa bade us all a Merry Christmas. Since the HERALD office has no chimney, he had to leave by the stairs and since Torrance has no snow, he had to use his car.

But don't kid yourself. Santa is still Santa. He's a whiz at child psychology and he's got a philosophy that a lot of adults might well adopt.

Out of the Past

From the Files of The Torrance HERALD

10 Years Ago This Month

December, 1946 No formal ceremonies were planned for the 25th anniversary of Torrance's incorporation on Dec. 12...

Members of the City Council voted to have a Federal census taken of the local population to obtain additional gas tax funds... Dr. Joseph Kaplan, UCLA professor, addressed the local Rotary Club on the "Background of Atomic Energy."

15 Years Ago This Month

December, 1941 Blackouts and test air raid alarms were being scheduled in the first week following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor... Principals of all schools in the Torrance area

received instructions that school employees were being placed on a 24-hour, seven day week availability schedule... There was no confirmation to rumors that Torrance men had been involved in the initial action in the Pacific... President Roosevelt addressed Congress on Dec. 9...

20 Years Ago This Month

December, 1936 John Agapito, veteran trouble-shooter at Columbia Steel, celebrated his 20th year with the local steel firm. Agapito's service record was broken only by a three-week break for an operation in 1926, and a one-week vacation with pay in 1935...

25 Years Ago This Month December, 1931 Directors of the Chamber of Commerce voted to ask the local Legion Drum and Bugle Corps to represent Torrance in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses parade on New Year's Day... Postmaster Gourdier announced that due to the Christmas rush, the postoffice would be open every night until 6 p.m.

30 Years Ago This Month December, 1926 Sherman Monnie narrowly escaped death when, standing on a wet floor, he touched a live wire in the garage where he works and received a 220 volt jolt. Though thrown violently to the floor, he suffered no permanent injuries...

LAW IN ACTION



army jeep harmed your child, you could collect only if Congress passed a special bill awarding damages.

Recently this doctrine has been attacked: Why shouldn't the government pay like any other organization?

So during the last war the federal government in response to public opinion passed a "tort liability" law. It gives the people much more power to sue than before the last war. And the courts much more often than Congress now set the damages in many more kinds of cases.

But the doctrine of sovereign immunity still holds, for it is still the government which gives legal permission to you to sue.

Note: California lawyers offer this column for you to know about our law.

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